

Joint Master Control – the next generation

Goals:

- Capital resources necessary to maintain the system and to address constantly changing technology
- Capital resources to ensure we are responsive to our partners
 - Group 1 – those using Joint Master Control: How can we improve?
 - Group 2 – those not using Joint Master Control: carrying OGTV channel, redundant systems, & access to content catalog
- Multi-year commitment with JMC partners so that BEMC can negotiate better deals with its vendors

Tasks:

Quarterly or bi-annual Engineering review: What do we need right now? What projects are underway and what is their status?

- Annual Engineering review: What went right? What went wrong? Suggest Engineering & Broadcast Operations Committee meet in late April prior to the May Commission meeting.
- Biennial Engineering Capital review: What's coming over the next 5 years that we need to prepare for? What equipment is reaching end of life? Is capacity an issue?
 - With all partners – active JMC users and those for which we can serve as a redundant back up
 - What do the Ohio PTV stations need from BEMC to support their goals involving ATSC 3.0?
 - Commission committee to meet in late August 2023 or September 2023
- Annual Broadcasting Legal review: address concerns about FCC/broadcast issues. Are there differences in needs between university-affiliated channels and community channels? What can BEMC do to help?
- Review engineering performance by primary streams and pass-through channels
- Explore solutions at BEMC to assist “non-participants” more effectively in the JMC, to achieve their goals with added redundancy, support, etc.

- Quarterly service reports shared with partners using the system; similar service reports requested to be offered from Ohio PTV Stations not primarily serviced by the JMC
- JMC Asset Management System access / JMC broadcast catalog access from remote locations, for programming/traffic staff at partner stations
 - Myers offers a ProTrack Hub & Spoke solution that can be viable for stations not primarily serviced by the JMC
 - The Myers solution would come with an ongoing service/support cost
- Assure continued compliance/access to streaming services as new options come online (PBS sIX, MVPDs, Satellite companies)
 - Ongoing PBS sIX Project progression and successes, including BEMC being the First JMC to fully complete the “sIX Phase E tasks” allowing for linear streams to digital partners.
 - Active involvement in PBS Satellite Transition, with BEMC being among the leaders involved in the PBS Satellite Migration Working Group for this significant transitional period.
- Media Transcoding issues with the Magnabox
- Coordinate with stations to create animated lower-third graphics and identify shortcomings in currently available software/equipment
- Improve efficiency for local stations to transfer media such as promos or advertising to JMC / Stations commitment to use sIX to share programs with each other?
- Are there better systems (distributed vs. hub and spoke) that would work better moving forward than what we have?
- Commission affirms whether a station is a JMC user or non-user there is no financial responsibility to the station and no impact on the subsidy allocation.

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